

REMARKS

Reconsideration of all grounds of rejection, and allowance of all the pending claims are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-5, 7, 13-16 and 18, as shown above remain pending herein.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication the Office Action that all grounds of rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 have been withdrawn.

(1) Claims 1-5, 7, 13-16 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Goldberg (U.S. 6,122,612) in view of Waibel et al. (U.S. 5,712,957, hereafter "Waibel"). Applicants respectfully traverse for the reasons indicated herein below.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the repeat of the spoken digit string is an entire repeat of the spoken digit string. Support is found in the specification, for example, at least at page 7, lines 12-14.

In contrast, Waibel discloses at column 5, lines 45-49 that a "secondary utterance", which is "a **subpiece of the primary utterance**" is run through the speech recognition engine. Fig. 3 also shows that at step 44 the entire phrase "take the cat" is not spoken and then at step 50 only a portion (subpiece of the primary utterance) ("the cat") is respoken.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that (1) there is no incentive or motivation found in the references to suggest their combination, and (2) even if a person of ordinary skill in the art combined the alleged teachings of the combination of Goldberg and Waibel, the combination still fails to disclose or suggest repeating the entire spoken

digit string. A repetition of the entire digit string as in the presently claimed invention allows the search engine to check the exact phrase, whereas a secondary utterance of a portion of the phrase will change the results as there are fewer words in the search.

Furthermore, the motivation for the aforementioned comes from the Applicants claimed invention, and not from anything that an artisan may have gleaned from the combination of Goldberg and Waibel.

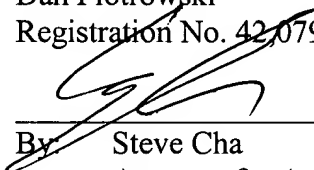
For at least the above reason, reconsideration of this ground of rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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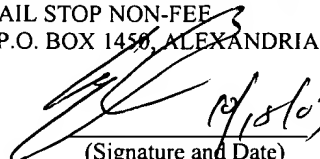
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